

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

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R 100044Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5761

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

USDEL JEC PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 14439

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS MILI VNVS ID

SUBJECT: PRG LUNCHEON FOR THE INDONESIAN DELEGATION

THE FOLLOWING SENT SAIGON FROM AMCONSUL DANANG 8 AUG 73
REPEATED FOR YOUR INFO

QUOTE: C O N F I D E N T I A L DANANG 0999

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PINS MILI VNVS ID

SUBJECT: PRG LUNCHEON FOR THE INDONESIAN DELEGATION

1. ARRO, HUE, REPORTS THAT THE PRG GAVE A LUNCHEON FOR DEPARTING
INDONESIAN DELEGATION OFFICER-IN-CHARGE, COLONEL DEDY KARSANO, ON
AUGUST 6 AT GIO LINH. ACCORDING TO THE JMC RVN DEL CHIEF,
COLONEL HA NGOC TAM, THESE FRIENDLY MEETINGS BETWEEN THE INDONES-
IANS AND THE PRG (OF WHICH THIS WAS THE SECOND IN A WEEK) ARE
BECOMING A CAUSE FOR CONCERN. DEPUTY CG, LE GEN LAM QUANG THI,
HAS ORDERED COLONEL TAM TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THIS BLOSSOMING
RELATIONSHIP AND WHETHER THESE MAY BE DIRE IMPLICATIONS FOR THE
RVN. MEANWHILE, TAM HAS BEEN ORDERED TO REDOUBLE JMC EFFORTS TO
"ASSIST" THE INDONESIANS IN ANY WAY POSSIBLE AND TO AVOID EXPRESS-
ING ANY DISPLEASURE ABOUT THE VISITS. COLONEL TAM COMMENTED
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THAT THESE CONTACTS MAY BE HARMLESS AND ENTIRELY APPROPRIATE, BUT

THE RVN, HAVING LOST ITS ONLY OTHER FRIEND ON THE ICCS, MUST BE EXTREMELY WATCHFUL FOR ANY SIGNS THAT THE PRG MIGHT BE SUCCESSFULLY WOOLING THE INDODEL. THE RVN KNOWS THE FOREIGN POLICY STANCE OF INDONESIA BUT COLONEL TAM IS AFRAID THAT IN PERSONAL CONTACTS INDIVIDUALS MIGHT BE SWAYED THE WRONG WAY AND CAUSE FUTURE PROBLEMS FOR THE RVN.

2. COLONEL KARSANO LOANED THE ARRO A TAPE HE HAD RECORDED OF THE LUNCHEON CONVERSATION. IT IS APPARENT THAT KARSANO MEASURED HIS WORDS CAREFULLY, STRESSING THAT HE WANTED TO TREAT BOTH THE RVN AND THE PRG WITH EQUAL FAIRNESS. HE COMMENTED TO THE PRG THAT THIS POLICY SEEMED TO CAUSE SOME MISUNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THEMSELVES AND THE CANADIANS WHO "WONDERED WHAT WAS HAPPENING TO THE INDONESIANS". KARSANO STATED THE POLICY OF THE INDODEL IS TO SEEK COMPROMISE, TO CARRY OUT THE PARIS AGREEMENT, AND TO ESTABLISH PEACE BY MAKING THE ICCS MORE ACTIVE IN ITS CONTACTS WITH BOTH SOUTH VIETNAMESE PARTIES. KARSANO EXPRESSED DISAPPOINTMENT THAT HIS INVITATION TO THE POLES AND HUNGARIANS TO JOIN THE LUNCHEON HAD BEEN REFUSED. THE PRG SUGGESTED THAT PERHAPS THEY WISHED TO GIVE THE INDONESIANS MORE FREEDOM TO EXPRESS THEIR POINT OF VIEW.

3. THE PRG USED THE OCCASION TO PRAISE THE INDONESIANS WHO DO "THE MOST OF ANY DELEGATION IN REGION I TO IMPLEMENT THE PEACE AGREEMENT" AND TO CHASTISE THE CANADIANS FOR ABANDONING THE ICCS AND FAILING TO MAINTAIN NEUTRALITY OR OBJECTIVITY. THE PRG ALSO CRITICIZED THE RVN FOR FAILURE TO COOPERATE ON THE ISSUE OF CLEARING THE THACH HAN RIVER OF POSSIBLE EXPLOSIVE DEVICES. THEY HOPED THAT THE NEW RVN DELEGATION CHIEF OF REGION I WOULD COOPERATE TO SETTLE THIS ISSUE.

4. COMMENT: IT APPEARS LIKELY THAT THE ABSENCE OF THE POLES AND HUNGARIANS WAS ARRANGED BY THE PRG BEFOREHAND NOT ONLY TO ENCOURAGE GREATER FRANKNESS BY THE INDONESIANS BUT ALSO TO PERMIT THE PRG TO CONCENTRATE ITS FLATTERY WHERE IT WOULD DO THE MOST GOOD. IT DOES NOT APPEAR FROM THIS EPISODE, HOWEVER, THAT THE RVN YET HAS REAL CAUSE TO FEAR THAT THE INDONESIANS WILL BE TAKEN IN.
POPPLE UNQUOTE
MARTIN

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